

Thomas A. Nelson

Applicant for appointment to fill director position vacated by Director Brad Ross

August 28, 2023

I grew up in Goleta, and graduated from San Marcos High School in 1965. I served four years in the USAF(1966 to 1970.) I joined the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, in 1970, and served for 35 years active.. I managed the Coroner Bureau and Toxicology Laboratory with an annual \$2.4 million budget and retired as a Sergeant in 2005.

After working an additional 3 years as Extra-Help, I went to work as a Court Security Officer under contract with the United States Marshal Service until 2021.

I am currently California Licensed Private Investigation and Santa Barbara County Registered Legal Process Server. I started my own firm, T.A. Nelson & Associates Private Investigations, in January 2023 and have been involved in over 200 investigations since then.

I have been on many boards of directors over the past several years, including two HOA's, one was Shoreline Condominiums in Santa Barbara, where I was president during a multiyear \$10 million complex renovation. I am the current President of the San Lorenzo Foundation Board, which raises funds to support the San Lorenzo Novitiate and the North American and Pacific Capuchin Conference Novitiate. I was also the 2008 Commodore of the Pierpont Bay Yacht Club, and I remain a PBYC Staff Commodore.

I want to work for the Los Olivos community residents to insure they get an effective, affordable and compatible wastewater system, while at the same time not setting the stage for uncontrolled development and growth. I will support and promote only those solutions that are consistent with the SYV Community Plan's protections, e.g., "The beauty of the land should be preserved by limiting urban sprawl and creating buffer zones to maintain the individual character at each town."

My wife, Lynne, and I have lived in the Santa Ynez Valley since 1986, and raised our blended family here. Three of our children attended Los Olivos Elementary School for Middle School after Ballard Elementary School. We moved to Los Olivos in 2015 after Lynne inherited her parents' home on San Marcos Avenue and we are active in keeping our neighborhood safe, beautiful and healthy.

I have attached an updated version of the LOCSD Director Applicant Questionnaire I completed when I applied for the LOCSD Board vacancy in 2022. I was appointed to the Director position until the November 2022 election when I ran unsuccessfully for a four-year term on the LOCSD Board of Directors. I intend, whether I am successful or not in this appointment process, to run for the two-year position when it comes up for election in November 2024.

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LOCS D DIRECTOR APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME: Thomas A. Nelson

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1) Why are you interested in the Director position and how does your background prepare you for this position?

I am interested in representing my residential community members in the development of the Los Olivos Wastewater Treatment system. I have been a member of several boards and understand how they work. I have been the President of two homeowners' associations and one included the planning, development and execution of a 10-million-dollar total renovation of the infrastructure and all building components in a beach side community. I want to work with the LOCD Board to help improve the communications with the District residents and the neighboring affected non-District residents in the development of the best end product for the entire community. I was appointed to complete a vacant four-year term but was not elected in the general election. I have continued to be involved in the LOCS D even though I was not elected to fulfill the four-year term. I would like to continue to serve the Los Olivos community and complete this vacant two-year term.

2) What is your vision for the Los Olivos Community Services District over the next four years?

I want to see the best and most efficient wastewater treatment system that the community can afford. I also want to see the inclusion of a reclaimed water element included to aim toward solving the drought issue that has plagued California and the Santa Ynez Valley for decades. Both of these related elements will best serve the community and the environment.

3) What do you foresee as the biggest issue for the District as it moves towards a Proposition 218 vote?

The biggest problem I anticipate is the size and location of the treatment plant. I believe the LOCS D must include everyone who will be directly affected by the size and location. We must be open; we must listen and we must be good neighbors. Wherever the plant is located there will be a change in the neighborhood and that change should be mitigated as much as possible. What we do now will have long term impacts on the properties and families residing nearby. We must plan carefully and act with civility understanding we will have objections and we must seek compromise in our solutions.

4) How will you engage taxpayers in the Los Olivos Community Services District's activities?

I will engage all people with openness, frankness and transparency in all stages of the process. The taxpayer residents have much more of a stake in this project than any business. Businesses will come and go, but residents will be here for the long haul and will be who keeps Los Olivos the desirable community and destination that it is.

5) Please disclose any potential conflicts.

I am unaware of any existing conflicts of interest.

6) Please disclose any involvement with current and/or pending litigation?

I am not involved in any litigations, current or pending.